

also fought bone cancer and survived the disease for fifteen years. She would be proud to know that research is being conducted in her name that will advance our ability to treat pancreatic cancer and help those afflicted with the disease. Her husband, Kenneth Goodman, who is serving as Chairman of the evening's festivities, has demonstrated remarkable generosity and great dedication to the noble effort to expand cancer research funding.

The award recipients, donors and attendees of tonight's event will be treated to a preview performance of Wallenberg, The Musical, book and lyrics by Laurence Holzman and Felicia Needleman, and music by Benjamin Rosenbluth. Wallenberg tells the fascinating and uplifting story of Raoul Wallenberg, one of the heroes of the 20th century, a Swedish diplomat who singlehandedly saved more than 100,000 Hungarian Jews in a sixth month period. His courage demonstrates that one person can have a monumental impact and suggests that history could have been different had more people acted as valiantly as Mr. Wallenberg. The presentation will take place at the historic Hudson Theatre, a landmarked theatre built in 1903 by Henry Harris, that later became a radio playhouse, a television studio, a burlesque theatre, a rock club and most recently, an elegant venue for special events. Mr. Wallenberg's niece, Louise Von Dardel, is flying in from Paris to be present at the event.

Like Raoul Wallenberg, the donors, ICRF and the scientists are proving that individuals can make an extraordinary difference. Raoul Wallenberg succeeded through personal heroism and audacious ploys, while ICRF's heroes make a difference through their benevolence, volunteer work and scientific research. The work that these extraordinary people are doing will save thousands of lives.

Madam Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the exemplary work being done by ICRF and the scientists it funds, and the extraordinary generosity of its donors.

RELATIONS BETWEEN REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I am encouraged by the latest movement towards normalization of relations between the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Armenia.

On August 31, 2009, the Foreign Ministers of Turkey, Armenia and Switzerland sent out a joint press release which was the latest significant step down the path to establishing diplomatic relations between Turkey and Armenia. The countries have completed and initiated two protocols which will, when they enter into force, provide a framework for the normalization of the bilateral relations. Moreover, I am encouraged that the parties have also included a timetable for implementation of the agreement which is an added confidence building measure for both sides. The citizens of Turkey and Armenia can now see a positive light at the end of the tunnel and we should do what we can to help them achieve their common goals.

This is a significant step in the right direction for the region and the world at large. The United States should continue to encourage and support the efforts of Turkey and Armenia, with the good offices of Switzerland, to build a productive and stable bilateral relationship and thereby enhance stability throughout the region.

IN RECOGNITION OF ARMY SPECIALIST MATTHEW HASTINGS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated patriot and a true American hero. On August 17, 2009, our nation lost a brave service member when Army Specialist Matthew D. Hastings died in Baghdad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, from a non-combat related incident.

Army Specialist Hastings lived in Claremore, Oklahoma, but his father resides in Jefferson, Arkansas. Although I never had the honor to meet Specialist Hastings, on behalf of the State of Arkansas, I extend my utmost condolences to his family, friends and all who knew him for this devastating loss.

Army Specialist Hastings was assigned to the 582nd Medical Logistics Company, 1st Medical Brigade, 13th Sustainment Command, Fort Hood, Texas. He graduated from Broken Arrow Alternative Academy in 2005 and joined the military a year later as a light-wheel vehicle mechanic. According to those who knew him, he loved to hunt and fish, took great pride in his work and treasured time spent with his family and friends. I am sure he will be sorely missed.

My deepest thoughts and prayers are with his mother and stepfather, Lawanda and Roger Lowry; his father, Chuck Hastings, Jr.; his sister, Michelle; and, the rest of his family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time.

Today, I ask all members of Congress to join me as we honor the life of Army Specialist Matthew Hastings and all those men and women in our Armed Forces who give the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country.

COMMENDING FIRST COMMUNITY BANK ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend First Community Bank on 100 years of service in southwest Alabama.

On June 6, 1909, in the office of Granade and Granade, Attorneys, Chatham State Bank was first organized. The next month the bank's charter was filed with a capital stock of \$25,000 and 250 shares at \$100 per share. For the next five years, the bank conducted business in the tax assessor's office at the Washington County Courthouse.

In 1910, construction on the first building for Chatham State Bank began and today, the

bank continues to operate on the same site. During the Great Depression when all banks were required to close for a specified period of time, Chatham State Bank was one of only a few area banks able to reopen immediately.

On August 30, 1974, a branch bank was opened in Millry. The bank began serving the people of Mobile County in 1985 when the bank purchased the Mt. Vernon office from First National Bank of Mobile. To reflect its growth and service to Mobile and Washington Counties, Chatham State Bank changed its name to First Community Bank on July 19, 1986. Since that time, the bank has expanded to Citronelle and Saraland, as well as locations on Schillinger Road and Cottage Hill Road in Mobile.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Glen Davis and all of those at First Community Bank on 100 years of outstanding service. For this and all of their accomplishments, I extend my heartfelt thanks for their continued service to the Alabama business community, the First Congressional District, and the state of Alabama.

It is my hope First Community Bank continues its story of success for another 100 years.

REMEMBERING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANE FLOYD

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, this week we mark 10 years since the floodwaters of Hurricane Floyd devastated eastern North Carolina, killing 52 people, causing over \$6 billion in damage, and leaving thousands homeless. In the eastern part of the state, it is known simply as "The Flood." It remains the most devastating natural disaster in our state's history.

On September 16th, 1999, Hurricane Floyd hit North Carolina as a strong Category 2 hurricane. Hurricane Floyd made landfall at Cape Fear and moved north along Interstate 95, hitting eastern North Carolina with 100-mph winds and up to two feet of rain. Of the two, the rain proved the more fatal element. Arriving on the heels of Hurricane Dennis, which had already soaked the ground and water table, Floyd's rains created massive flooding.

Over a period of a month, nearly every river basin in eastern North Carolina exceeded 500-year flood levels. The cresting waters destroyed 7,000 homes, left 17,000 uninhabitable, and damaged 56,000. The brave men and women of the National Guard and the Coast Guard performed nearly 1,700 freshwater rescues of people trapped on the roofs of their homes due to the rapid rise of the water. In total, Floyd was responsible for 57 fatalities in the United States, mostly in North Carolina.

Sixty-six counties in North Carolina were declared federal disaster areas. There were more than \$6 billion in losses of property and agriculture. After the storm, over 88,500 North Carolinians registered state or federal disaster aid.

Every community I represent was in some way affected by "The Flood." From flooded towns of Greenville, Kinston, Tarboro, Snow

Hill and Rocky Mount, where 30 percent of the city was underwater, to communities on higher ground that served as refuges for newly homeless neighbors, nearly every person in the eastern North Carolina experienced the Flood in a real way. But one of the hardest hit communities was Princeville, North Carolina. Princeville was completely submerged for more than a week—people's homes were underwater and the business community was virtually leveled.

Princeville, originally called Freedom Hill, is the oldest town incorporated by African-Americans in the United States. It was settled in 1865 by newly freed slaves on low and soggy swampland across the Tar River from the town of Tarboro. It had survived smaller floods over the years, but The Flood of 1999 nearly killed this historic town. With water up to the rooftops, FEMA offered the people of Princeville a buyout to abandon the town.

Though a difficult decision, the town rejected the offer 3–2. At the time, Mayor Delia Perkins said, "Rebuilding is staying with your heritage. We plan to stay."

The community's struggle to rebuild attracted the attention of many people, including then-President Bill Clinton. President Clinton issued Executive Order (EO) 13146, tasking an interagency President's Council with developing "assessments and recommendations to repair and rebuild Princeville, and, to the extent practicable, protect Princeville from future floods." Hosts of other national figures visited and lent their support. Today, much of the town is rebuilt, though a handful of flooded homes still await demolition.

Today we remember the devastation caused by the Hurricane Floyd flood of 1999. The scars are still seen on the sides of buildings and in the hearts of people, but these communities have overcome and continue to work toward full recovery after these 10 years.

EDGAR BRIDGES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, it gives me immense pleasure to recognize the life and accomplishments of a scholar, a leader, and a pillar in the community, Mr. Edgar Bridges.

Mr. Edgar Bridges' extensive scholastic record is an excellent testament to his belief in the power of education both for himself, and for the advancement of his community as a whole. He began his scholastic career in Lawrence County Public Schools. Later, he attended Prentiss Normal and Industrial Institute. He then attended Pacific Training School in Los Angeles California. Mr. Edgar Bridges' scholastic achievements culminated when he received a Bachelor's in Science Degree in Religious Education from The Mississippi Baptist Seminary.

Mr. Bridges' aforementioned education afforded him the opportunity to realize the importance of education for everyone. Thus, he became a champion for the educational development of children and improving life experiences for youth as a whole, serving as Executive Director of The Lawrence County Education and Recreation Association, president

of the Lawrence County Educational Convention, member of the Board of Trustees for McCullough High School (Monticello, MS), and Chairman of the Board of Directors for Five County Child Development Program Inc.

Mr. Edgar Bridges' record of service to his community, church, and participation in civic activities are exemplary of a person who truly cares about the community, and believes in "giving back" to them through tireless effort and dedication. He served as co-chair of the Home Health Care Agency at Lawrence County Hospital and Superintendent of the Mission for the Lawrence County Baptist Association. He also contributed to the community by becoming a member of the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce, and was a lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mr. Bridges' phenomenal record in education and service was recognized in the form of awards, accolades, and citations. He received the Medgar Evers Award for Outstanding Leadership, the Labor and Industry Award from the NAACP for being an outstanding contributor to Head Start, and was Emeritus Grand Master of the M.W. Stringer Grand Lodge of Mississippi, an accomplishment in which he was most proud.

Once again, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the lifetime and accomplishments of The Honorable Mr. Edgar Bridges. I am honored to salute such a champion for academics, a true leader, and a pillar of the community.

CONGRATULATING THE MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I extend my strong support to H. Res. 215, which congratulates the Minority Business Development Agency for its accomplishments on its 40th anniversary.

For forty years, the Minority Business Development Agency has fostered the establishment and growth of minority-owned businesses in America. Since the agency's founding in 1969, it has assisted 625,000 minority businesses and helped them secure more than \$25 billion in loans and bonding. In 2008, it served 25,000 businesses and contributed to the creation of over 5,000 new jobs. The Minority Business Development Agency is the only federal agency dedicated to minority business enterprise and works to achieve entrepreneurial parity so that minority businesses are represented proportionally to the minority population in this country.

While the number of minority businesses in the United States has grown today to 4 million from only 322,000 in 1969, the growth of minority firms has not kept pace with the growth of the minority population. Minority groups represent 26 percent of the country's population, but own only 12 percent of the nation's businesses and receive only 6 percent of total sales.

Nevertheless, minority enterprises account for \$668 billion in total annual sales receipts

and employ 5 million people. By 2042, minorities in America will become a numerical majority. Based on this population shift, it is clear that the success of the American economy is directly linked to the success of minority businesses, which are in a unique position to support the vibrancy of local communities. Supporting minority businesses is not only beneficial to minority enterprise, but to communities and people who depend on those businesses as well.

As the Minority Business Development Agency enters its fifth decade, I urge the agency to continue its efforts to help minorities achieve entrepreneurial parity, contribute to the health of the national economy and communities across America. I am proud to celebrate the achievements of the Minority Business Development Agency on its 40th anniversary and I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 215.

HONORING RAYMOND H.
DUNLAP, SR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Bishop Raymond H. Dunlap, Sr. for 21 years broadcasting the "Hour of Power" Radio Program. Bishop Dunlap will be honored this weekend by the congregations of Bethlehem Temple Church of the Apostolic Faith and New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church.

After attending the West Virginia Institute and Aeon Bible College, he served in the US Armed Services for two years. He was discharged in 1952, married Lillian Thomas in 1953, and accepted his call to preach the Gospel in 1954 under the direction of his father, Bishop Sandy Dunlap.

He moved to Flint, Michigan in 1966 and founded The Eliezer Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. He was elevated to District Elder and then Junior Bishop. In August 1983, he was ordained a Bishop and currently presides as Diocesan of the Northern Diocese of Michigan; he is the former Diocesan of Minnesota. Bishop Dunlap also serves as the establishmentarian of Berea Bible College. He has directed the establishment of 13 churches of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Michigan and 3 churches in Minnesota. In addition to being heard daily on the "Hour of Power," Bishop has reared more than 46 ministerial sons and Eliezer Church operates the Hope Academy School.

Bishop Dunlap and his wife, Lillian, have been blessed with 6 children, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the work of Bishop Raymond H. Dunlap, Sr. He has devoted his life to bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to the people of Flint, Michigan. His radio broadcasts are a source of comfort and joy to his listeners. I pray that he will continue for many years to inspire and elevate the spiritual life of the community and bring his message of hope to those with the most need.

INFORMATION FOR PROCLAMATION OR CONGRATULATORY LETTER FOR BISHOP RAYMOND H. DUNLAP, SR., D.D. THA.A.B.A.

Two (2) day City Wide Celebration Honoring Bishop Raymond H. Dunlap, Sr., for 21